

# Water & Form

*Water & Form* is inspired by intimate study of our local coasts and wetlands. Works in clay, fiber, and encaustic explore the way water shapes our landscapes, and the gathering of life that shares them. Many of the works incorporate locally found objects, each with their own story to tell.

I have spent my life on the coast, and all my artwork has its roots in my love of the sea. *Water & Form* celebrates the endless mystery of the deep ocean and the delight of discovery at tide pools and beaches. I see the coast as a border between the known and unknown, where our human connection to nature becomes clear. I believe that celebrating this essential connection can lead us to meet the unknown in our lives with wonder and joy.

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10% of all proceeds from my art sales benefit local ocean conservancy and art organizations. Thank you for helping to support what we love.

# Rope Baskets

Reclaimed fishing rope, cotton cord, found objects

For weeks I collected rope washed ashore from lobster traps onto the rocky beaches of Deer Isle, Maine.

Cleaned, unraveled, and re-stitched, the colorful rope became a collection of unique baskets accented with local stones and other island treasures. The natural wave of the unraveled rope dictates what shape the baskets take.

The colors of the rope echo the layered coastal landscapes of Deer Isle – pink granite bedrock stained gray from tidal mud flats, a line of bright orange kelp at the meeting point of deep green forest and ocean, layers of muted blues and grays on a foggy day.

# Cascadia Winter

Encaustic wax, found objects, drawing and collage

In December 2016 I participated in an artist residency in Vancouver, Washington, where I created this series of encaustic paintings directly inspired by the Pacific Northwest winter landscape.

The *Cascadia Winter* series was completed in the residency studio, immediately after hours spent exploring local creeks and marshes, gathering details and debris to incorporate into the paintings. Some pieces express a specific moment; others are an accumulated memory of the landscape.

My experience at the residency was strongly influenced by water: cloudbursts, snowfall, wetlands, riverbanks and muddy, icy puddles. Studying the landscape made me acutely aware of the many living things relying on this water to survive.

# River to Sea

Encaustic wax, found objects, drawing and collage

Beginning with the freshwater marshes that inspired *Cascadia Winter*, *River to Sea* follows the water through brackish estuaries, out to the open ocean, and back again over tidal shallows up to a sandy coastline. *River to Sea* is the first in a planned series of “progression” pieces, exploring transition environments and natural cycles of change.

# Encaustic Process

I use a small flat iron to melt bricks of colored wax directly onto the painting's surface. Colors are mixed and texture is created as the iron moves over the surface, unifying multiple layers of drawing and embedded objects.

My intentions for each painting are constantly in dialogue with the unique results of each stroke of the iron. The process is spontaneous and intuitive, as the wax re-melts into new patterns and colors with every touch of heat. My role is mostly to decide when to stop.

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## **Caring for encaustic wax paintings**

To wipe clean and restore natural luster and shine, buff smooth surfaces gently with a soft, disposable, lint-free cloth. As with any original artwork, avoid placing the painting in direct sunlight or leaving the work directly in front of a heater or in a hot car. Wax melts at 140°F.

# Ceramics

Sea forms, forest details and living landscapes are my inspiration for these sculptures. Creating this work recalls the joy of exploring wild nature and discovering mysterious environments hidden in the everyday. Each piece is an invitation to pause and look closely, to catch a glimpse of something hidden and bright.

All the sculptures are meant to be touched. I love creating work that feels great in your hands, and so I often return to this simple, rounded "pod" shape, using tactile surface textures that highlight the beauty of the raw material.

Lava Pots • Lagoon Pots • Anemone Pots

Water-tight stoneware and porcelain

## Wanderers

Orbs: Porcelain, stoneware, glow-in-the-dark pigment

Shells: Water-tight stoneware. Safe for outdoor use